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186

O BARRIL DE PÓLVORA

THE WALKING DEAD

SKYBOUND

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN

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THE WALKING DEAD™

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KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN

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186: O BARRIL DE PÓLVORA

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ANTERIORMENTE:

A proposta de Dwight de tomar a Comunidade à força é rejeitada por Rick, que não quer outra guerra. Contudo, Dwight não aceita muito bem a ideia, começando uma briga com guardas da Comunidade para incitar uma revolta, isso só o faz parar na cadeia. Mas Dwight não é o único que pressiona Rick para se tornar o novo líder da Comunidade ja que Mercer tem uma proposta também...

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OI, SOU JOSH... SOU...NOVO AQUI. NÃO CONHEÇO NINGUÉM. VOCÊ...SE IMPORTA SE EU SENTAR AQUI?

TUDO BEM.

O QUE ESTÁ FAZENDO?

PENSEI QUE ESTAVA DORMINDO-- SAIA DAQUI!

VÁ PRA COZINHA!

OK, MAS ESTÁ TUDO BEM?

ESTOU COLOCANDO MINHA PERUCA.

PERUCA?

OH, VOCÊ ACHA QUE ALGUMAS MULHERES NEGRAS ***NATURALMENTE*** TEM CABELO LISO E MACIO?

NÃO. AGORA SAIA, NÃO QUERO QUE ME VEJA ASSIM.

POR QUE USA UMA PERUCA?

PORQUE ME FAZ ME SENTIR BEM. ***SAIA.***

OK, OK.

DESCULPA, DESCULPA.

QUER VER MEU CABELO DE VERDADE?

PRONTO.

FELIZ AGORA?

SIM. ESTOU.

ACHO QUE VOCÊ É LINDA DE QUALQUER JEITO.

QUE MEIGO.

VOCÊ FICA LEGAL MESMO SEM ELA.

TÁ, TÁ. NÃO USO ELA POR ***VOCÊ***, ENTÃO SAIA E ME DEIXE TERMINAR.

SIM, SENHORA, SAINDO.

FINAL-MENTE.

TEM SORTE DE TE DEIXAREM SAIR DEPOIS DO QUE FEZ.

EM QUE DIABOS ESTAVA PEN-SANDO? VOCÊ PODIA ESTAR MORTO.

ESSA NÃO É A VERDADE TODO DIA?

AO MENOS TERIA SIDO POR ALGO QUE ***IMPORTA.***

SABE QUE EU ***CON-CORDO*** COM VOCÊ. ESSAS PESSOAS PRECISAM DE ALGUÉM PARA SALVÁ-LAS, PO-DERIA MUITO BEM SERMOS NÓS.

MAS PARA QUE A PRESSA? SINTO QUE ISSO SEJA ALGO QUE PRECISAMOS FAZER COM O TEMPO.

PERDOE SE PESSOAS SENDO ***ESPANCADAS ATÉ A MORTE*** NA RUA ME DÁ UM CERTO SENTIDO DE URGÊNCIA.

NÃO ESTOU TENTANDO MINIMIZAR AS COISAS. SÓ ESTOU DIZENDO QUE PRECISA HAVER UM PLANO. NÓS NEM DISCUTIMOS O QUE VOCÊ FEZ AQUI.

ONDE ESTÁ RICK COM TUDO ISSO?

ELE VAI MUDAR DE IDEIA.

ELE DISSE ISSO?

DISSE. E ACHO QUE FALOU *SÉRIO*.

E ENTÃO?

O QUE VOCÊ VAI FAZER?

NÃO SEI, MAS DEPOIS DE FALAR COM MERCER, ESTOU PENSANDO QUE TALVEZ DWIGHT ESTEJA CERTO SOBRE ESTE LUGAR...

O QUE?

QUAL É, MICHONNE. TEM QUE ADMITIR QUE ESTE LUGAR NÃO É PERFEITO... MAS NÃO ME ENTENDA MAL, ESTÁ *PERTO*.

MAIS PERTO DO QUE DWIGHT PARECE RECONHECER, MAS ELE ESTÁ CERTO QUE AS PESSOAS PRECISAM DE AJUDA...

...E ELE ESTÁ CERTO QUE ESSAS PESSOAS NOS APOIARÃO SE TENTARMOS ASSUMIR.

OH MEU DEUS--O *QUE?!*

SINTO MUITO, MAS OS SISTEMAS DELES AQUI SÃO COMPLETAMENTE RETRÓGRADOS E INJUSTOS. NÃO POSSO FICAR SENTADO IGNORANDO ISSO.

NÃO ACREDITO QUE ***VOCÊ*** POSSA FICAR SENTADA IGNORANDO ISSO.

A COMUNIDADE TEM MUITO ESPAÇO PARA MELHORIAS. É ISSO QUE ME ***EMPOLGA*** TANTO AO ESTAR AQUI-- O QUE PODE SER FEITO COM AS PESSOAS AQUI.

ENTÃO VOCÊ ESTÁ CERTO, ELES PRECISAM DE AJUDA...

..MAS NÃO PRECISAM DISSO.

ELES PRECISAM DISSO.

PRECISAMOS DE SUA MENTE, SUA NOÇÃO DE ***JUSTIÇA.***

TUDO QUE PRECISA FAZER É MOSTRAR A ELES UM CAMINHO MELHOR.

NINGUÉM SAI, PEDIMOS MAIS COMIDA SE PRECISARMOS. ESSE VAI SER O ALMOÇO MAIS LONGO DE TODOS OS TEMPOS.

NUNCA MAIS TE VEMOS, ELODIE, ENTÃO TEMOS QUE APROVEITAR O MÁXIMO.

EU SEI, PESSOAL. AS COISAS ESTÃO TÃO LOUCAS ULTIMAMENTE. SINTO MUITO-- VOU FICAR AQUI POR UM LONGO TEMPO HOJE. PROMETO.

OLHA, ESTAMOS MUITO FELIZES POR VOCÊ... TÃO FELIZES QUE ENCONTROU SUA MÃE...

...MAS--

NANCY, NÃO.

O QUE?

O QUE ESTÁ HAVENDO?

É QUE... SUA MÃE. ELA IRRITOU MUITA GENTE DEFENDENDO AQUELES GUARDAS, E AGORA VOCÊ ESTÁ VIVENDO NAQUELE NOVO APARTAMENTO COM ELA...NÃO SEI...

...COM TUDO ACONTECENDO AQUI, ESTAMOS PREOCUPADAS EM DE QUE LADO VOCÊ ESTÁ.

LADO?

NÃO, NÃO TENHO NENHUM MOTIVO PARA ME ALARMAR. SÓ ESTOU TENTANDO SER CAUTELOSA.

RICK ME DEIXOU NO COMANDO. QUERO ESTAR PREPARADA PARA QUALQUER COISA. ESTÁ DIZENDO QUE ISSO É UM GRANDE PROBLEMA?

NÃO ESTOU DIZENDO ISSO MESMO. É QUE, VOCÊ SABE COMO AS NOTÍCIAS CORREM AQUI. É DIFÍCIL DIZER A NOSSA MILÍCIA PARA FICAR DE PRONTIDÃO SEM ELES SE PREOCUPAREM SOBRE ***PARA*** O QUE ESTÃO SE PREPARANDO.

AS PESSOAS VIRAM AQUELES GUARDAS DE ARMADURA QUANDO ESTAVAM AQUI. TODOS ***SABEM*** QUE ALGO ESTÁ SURGINDO.

NÃO, VINCENT. NADA ESTÁ "SURGINDO". SÓ QUERO ESTAR PRONTA SE ALGO ***COMEÇAR*** A SURGIR.

OK, ***NADA*** ESTÁ ACONTECENDO, TUDO ESTÁ ***BEM***, MAS VOCÊ QUER TODOS ALERTAS E PRONTOS PARA O CASO DE AS COISAS DE REPENTE ***NÃO*** ESTAREM ***BEM***. ACHO QUE ENTENDI.

SABE QUE ESSE É MAIS OU MENOS O STATUS QUO AQUI, CERTO?

É CLARO QUE SEI DISSO. SÓ QUERO QUE AMBOS SAIBAM QUE ESTOU PREOCUPADA.

ENTÃO SEJA QUAL FOR O NÍVEL PADRÃO DE ALERTA QUE VOCÊS ESTEJAM OPERANDO, QUERO QUE ***AUMENTE*** ISSO.

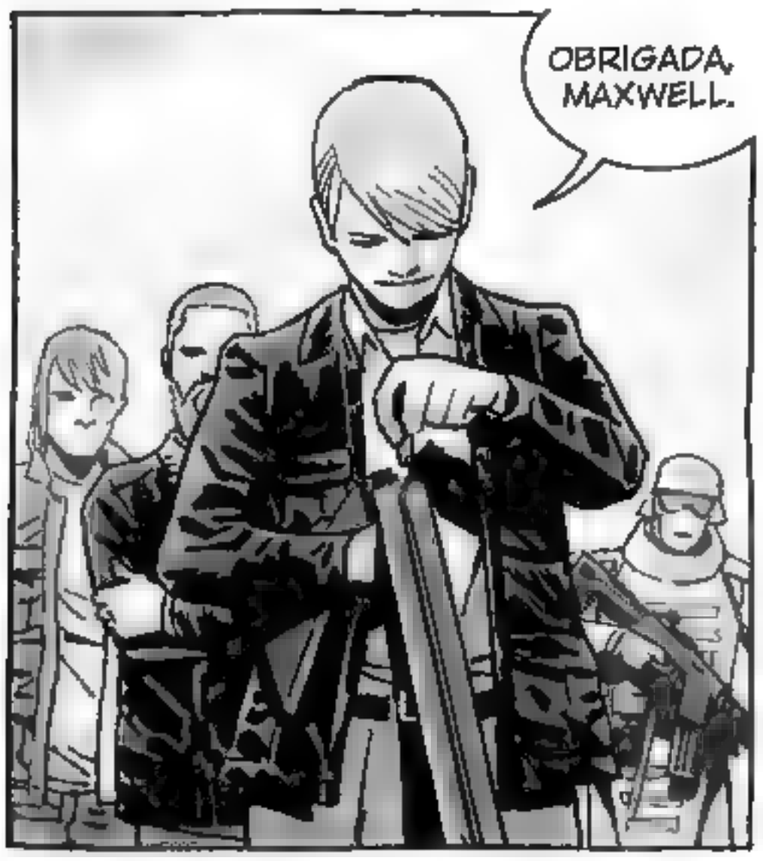
OK?

PODEMOS FAZER ISSO.

TÁ.

VOU PEGAR O DA DIREITA DE CAMISA XADREZ.

EXCELENTE ESCOLHA, GOVERNADORA.


OBRIGADA, MAXWELL.

CLICK.

KPOW!

ÓTIMO TIRO!

OBRIGADA, MERCER, VOCÊ PODERIA?

SHUKK!

OK, ACHO QUE É O BASTANTE POR HOJE. O QUE ACHAM DE NÓS VOLTARMOS?

POR MIM TUDO BEM. NÃO QUERIA VIR MESMO.

DEVÍAMOS AJUDAR ELE?

MERCER DÁ CONTA. VAMOS, ELE VAI NOS ALCANÇAR.

QUE DIABOS FOI *AQUILO?*

OH, VOCÊS NUNCA ESTIVERAM NUM GRUPO DE CAÇA ANTES? DESCULPA. DEVIA TER EXPLICADO ANTES DE PARTIRMOS.

A GOVERNADORA NORMALMENTE NOS PEDE PARA DEIXAR ALGUNS RETARDATÁRIO A SOLTA, NÃO O BASTANTE PARA SER PERIGOSO.

ELA GOSTA DE LEVAR UM GRUPO LÁ PARA FAZER PARECER QUE ELA FAZ PARTE DA MANUTENÇÃO DA SEGURANÇA DA ÁREA.

DÁ A ELA ALGO PARA FAZER.

ENTÃO TUDO ISSO FOI SÓ *EXIBIÇÃO?!*

NÃO SEI O QUE DIZER A VOCÊS. QUASE *TUDO* AQUI É PARA EXIBIÇÃO.

A COMUNIDADE JÁ PASSOU DA HORA DE *MUDAR.*

TE ESCUTAMOS ALTO E CLARO.

OK, ESTAMOS AQUI. SOBRE O QUE É TUDO ISSO?

ESTOU PREOCUPADA QUE VOCÊS COMETAM UM ERRO *TERRÍVEL*.

TIPO VENDER SEU POVO POR UM APARTAMENTO LEGAL?

ISSO É INAPROPRIADO.

NÃO ESTOU A FIM DE UM SERMÃO. TALVEZ EU ESTEJA ERRADO, MAS OS RISCOS PARECEM *ALTOS* PRA CARALHO AQUI. ACHO QUE É HORA DE PARAR DE BANCAR O BONZINHO.

POR QUE VOCÊ IRIA QUERER *PARAR* DE BANCAR O BONZINHO? QUAL É SEU OBJETIVO AQUI?

ESTÁ SÓ PEDINDO POR UMA BRIGA?

TENHO QUE DIZER, CONCORDO COM MICHONNE. PELO QUE POSSO VER, NINGUÉM, INCLUINDO AS PESSOAS ENCARREGADAS DA COMUNIDADE, ACHAM QUE NÃO TEM ESPAÇO PARA MELHORIAS AQUI.

ACHO QUE É POSSÍVEL TRABALHARMOS TODOS *JUNTOS* PARA MELHORAR AS COISAS PARA TODO MUNDO.

CONCORDAMOS SOBRE O QUE PRECISA SER FEITO, SÓ DISCORDAMOS EM COMO CHEGAR LÁ.

HONESTAMENTE, RICK, É UM ALÍVIO OUVIR VOCÊ DIZER ISSO. ESTAVA COMEÇANDO A FICAR BEM PREOCUPADA SOBRE O CAMINHO QUE VOCÊ ESTAVA SEGUINDO.

TAMBÉM ACREDITO QUE PODEMOS TRABALHAR JUNTOS COM PAMELA E O POVO DELA PARA CORRIGIR QUAISQUER MALES QUE ESTEJAM PRESENTES NO SISTEMA DELES.

É POR ISSO QUE ESPERO QUE NÃO SE IMPORTE DE EU TER CONVIDADO--

ESCUTAR DO CORREDOR NÃO É MESMO MEU ESTILO. NO ENTANTO, ESTOU MUITO FELIZ EM OUVIR QUE VOCÊ E EU ESTAMOS ALINHADOS, RICK...

...MAS, DWIGHT, SINTO MUITO, MAS VOCÊ VAI TER QUE *IR.*

O QUE ESTÁ FAZENDO? DEVERIA SER SÓ VOCÊ. POR QUE TROUXE ELES?!

VOCÊ CONCORDOU EM VIR AQUI CONVERSAR!

CONVERSAR?! COM PESSOAS DE CONLUIO CONTRA MIM?!

VOCÊ ESTÁ LOUCA?

MICHONNE, O QUE VOCÊ FEZ?

VOCÊ NÃO ENTENDE, RICK? ELA ESTÁ COM *ELES* AGORA.

ESTÁ TUDO ACABADO.

ESTOU DO LADO DE QUEM QUISER RESOLVER ISTO *PACIFICAMENTE.*

TROUXE TODOS VOCÊS AQUI PARA PODERMOS *CONVERSAR.* TODOS PRECISAMOS NOS ACALMAR E APENAS FAÇAM ISSO.

NÃO TEM SOLUÇÃO AQUI QUE NÃO FAÇA ELA ***PERDER PODER!***

REALMENTE ACHA QUE PODE CONVENCÊ-LA PACIFICAMENTE A CEDER O PODER DELA SOBRE ESSAS PESSOAS?!

DWIGHT, POR FAVOR. TE ASSEGURO, EU SEMPRE ESCOLHERIA O QUE FOSSE MELHOR PARA O POVO DA COMUNIDADE. LEVO MEU PAPEL AQUI MUITO A SÉRIO.

ESTÁ DE BRINCADEIRA COMIGO, PORRA?!

SOU MESMO O ÚNICO CARA QUE CONSEGUE VER ESSA MERDA?!

AGORA VEJO QUE NÃO TEM COMO CONTORNAR ISTO.

GUARDAS, ***PRENDAM*** ESTE HOMEM.

FACILITE PARA VOCÊ, NÃO RESISTA.

TODO MUNDO PARA TRÁS, PORRA OU VOU ESTOURAR A PORRA DA CABEÇA DELA!

DWIGHT, *ABAIXA* ESSA ARMA!

NÃO POSSO FAZER ISSO, RICK. CONHEÇO ESSAS PESSOAS. SEJA NEGAN OU ESTA MULHER, A ÚNICA COISA QUE ELES RESPEITAM SÃO O ***PODER.***

É A ÚNICA COISA A QUE ELA VAI ESCUTAR. ***OBSERVE.***

DIGA A ELES PARA NÃO SE MEXEREM, OU VOCÊ MORRE AGORA.

FIQUEM ONDE ESTÃO.

VIU?

TEMOS A ***VANTAGEM*** AQUI, RICK. PODERÍAMOS ABATER A LÍDER DELES AGORA. TUDO SE AJEITARIA SEM ELA.

AS PESSOAS AQUI NOS ***AGRADECERIAM.*** SABE DISSO.

É ASSIM QUE TEM QUE SER.

TEMOS QUE FAZER ISTO.

BLAM!

WHUDD.

OBRIGADA, RICK.

NÃO VOU ESQUECER ISSO.

MICHONNE, VOU MANDAR ALGUÉM PARA LIMPAR ISSO.

VOCÊ ESTÁ FELIZ?

O QUE?

VOCÊ FEZ ISSO.

O QUE?

DWIGHT ESTÁ MORTO POR CAUSA DO QUE VOCÊ FEZ.

ACHA QUE EU NÃO CONSEGUIRIA CONTROLAR DWIGHT? ACHOU MESMO QUE ELE IRIA ME CONVENCER A COLOCAR MAIS VIDAS EM PERIGO?!

NÃO PODIA SÓ CONFIAR EM MIM?!

POR QUE TROUXE PAMELA PARA CÁ? COMO ACHOU QUE ISSO IRIA ACABAR?

EU NÃO SEI.

NUNCA VOU TE PERDOAR POR ISTO. EU *NUNCA* VOU ESQUECER QUE VOCÊ ME ENCURRALOU-- O QUE ME OBRIGOU A *FAZER.*

O QUE TE OBRIGUEI A FAZER?!

DWIGHT ESTAVA ENLOUQUECIDO. VOCÊ SABIA QUE ELE IRIA PIRAR A QUALQUER MOMENTO E DE ALGUM MODO ESTÁ ASSOMBRADO PELO QUE FEZ?!

VOCÊ PERCEBE? O QUE FEZ SALVARÁ VIDAS!

VOCÊ EVITOU UMA *GUERRA!*

EVITEI?

OU EU SÓ ME JUNTEI AO *LADO ERRADO* EM UMA?

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Dwight's wild ride comes to a merciful (?) end. Dwight was a survivor, his ability to switch allegiances key to his longevity... but he never seemed happy. No move made him happy, and while he proved not to be a great leader, he always took issue with leadership. It looked like he finally pulled it all together in The Whisperer War... but that was short-lived. It's also hard to forget, since his redemption arc was overshadowed by that other former leader of the Saviors... Dwight MURDERED ABRAHAM 89 issues ago (!), so there's something poetic about him never seeing the end coming either. You know what? I'm okay with Dwight dying. However, I'm not quite sure what to think about Rick or Michonne's involvement in it... so I'm curious to hear your reactions.

Also, this month marks the end of Bill Sienkiewicz's masterful 15th anniversary covers for us with his depiction of Negan. I was honestly going to avoid talking about or printing letters that mentioned Negan... but Bill's portrait is too damn fine a piece of art for me not to mention. Thanks, Bill!

Who's Negan?

And I just wanted to chime in and say the esteemed Mr. Sienkiewicz's covers that he's done this year are a real highlight in the run of this series. Hitting 15 years is amazing enough, but to have these amazing, personal character portraits to commemorate all the characters we've loved and lost (or will lose) was the icing on the cake. Thanks so much for the amazing work, Bill!!

Also, this is the last issue of 2018... another year done. I want to thank everyone for another great year. Looking at what we have in store for 2019... it's going to be a big year, so buckle up!

Now let's dive into some letters!

Hello Creators of My Obsession,

I want to start by saying I don't know how you continue to make this the most anticipated part of each month to me, but every issue just leaves me wanting more to the full story. This is my favorite series of any platform by far, and I thank you so much for creating it. I have really enjoyed exploring the Commonwealth little by little, and I love the idea of Eugene being able to expand the world with a direct mode of transport (With or without Pamela leading one side of the tracks, though I feel she still has a lot more story to emerge).

Who has to repair all those tracks and clean the walkers from the area? Someone not as smart as Eugene, I'll tell you that.

I am very nervous about Dwight because I love his character and I am deeply afraid that he is going to cause trouble and it won't end up being good for anyone, but especially not himself.

Does it feel good to be right, Ryan?

Does it?

One question I had was will there ever be a bit of expansion of animals? I know they are more vulnerable than humans in this intense and dangerous world, but I have to think somewhere in the world there was someone who tried their best to save a group of animals. I work at a humane society and if this world were to become a reality I have plans to barricade the shelter and make it safe until civilization begins to emerge again (Like it is doing now in the comics). Because the world isn't the same without a nice dog in the neighborhood. Have you ever thought of a shelter being located in the Commonwealth where someone may have been protecting the pooches, cats, and any other species that could've been saved? Either way, I love the Walking Dead universe and I am immensely excited for the show to return (4 DAYS) and I cannot wait to see how this volume of the comic wraps up. I hope there are more volumes for many years to come. I will be reading them decades from now if we would be so lucky to be have this wonderful universe that long.

Sincerely,
Ryan J. Finigan
West Jefferson, OH

When I read this, I first thought you meant, has there been a population explosion among animals? So that's what I'm going to answer. Because, face it, without humanity actively trying to encroach on natural habits and destroying them, nature would allow wild animals to thrive again. That's even factoring in walkers. Most animals would smell those a mile away and just stay the hell away—or hear them and scamper off. (I'm picturing deer in my head. Have you ever gotten close enough to a deer to pet it? Hell no! They're always scampering off before you can admire their cuteness up close.) Now I just want to see an entire issue about a bear fighting zombies and am sad that will never happen.

We had a tiger fighting zombies! And in the early days we even had a zombie eating a deer! We may see more animals eventually. Sorry it's been so animal light for the most part.

Mr. Kirkman, et al-

The last page of issue #184 was encouraging. I would love to see positive change happen without ANOTHER war of some kind.

Agreed. That's why the bastard Dwight had to die.

The scene where Rick gets Pam to help clean up was FANTASTIC. As for Sebastian, I'd love to see him become more than a cliched, one-dimensional character. Yeah, we love to have people to hate, but a title with complex, nuanced interpersonal relationships like this one is beyond that kind of kowtowing to its readers. I'm probably being impatient, but it still bugs me. Speaking of things that bug me, the post-coital conversation between Princess and Officer Mercer was probably the most ridiculous, juvenile exchange I've seen in the series. This is obviously not the case with Mr. Kirkman, but it comes off like an I-can't-get-any-in-real-life-so-I'll-write-characters-who-have-lots-of-sex-and-talk-about-it situation. DEFINITELY an exception to the

normally non-juvenile dialogue...oh, wait. Negan. Nevermind.

Keep up the great work everyone,
Jason
Rochester, NY

Not defending the scene at all, or my work on it, because if you didn't like it, you didn't like it... and that's okay. BUT I will say that I purposefully write Princess to sound kind of juvenile. She's very matter-of-fact, plain spoken, and oddly optimistic and positive, which makes her sound somewhat child-like. Her dialogue in that scene could read as stilted, "I am happy today, today is a good day, things are good," if not read in the way it's intended. She's supposed to be somewhat spastic in the way she talks.

Sorry you didn't like the scene though. I've been known to have my fair share of off-days.

Hey TWD team,

I am a true comic convert, having started reading Compendiums 1-3 then buying the single issues about #160. I so enjoyed the Letter Hacks and the fan's interaction with Sina/Sean & Robert that I back collected the entire series of single issues to read Letter Hacks!

Wow. I don't write any of this to be re-read. I have no idea what I say issue to issue. Don't use anything I've said before against me now!

I've always wondered if I contradict myself at all over the course of these letters columns. I don't re-read or... y'know... recall them at all. To protect spoilers, I am at times downright dishonest in these pages, so I'm sure there's got to be a few oddly contradictory statements here and there. One day I'll sit down and re-read the whole Letter Hacks run (I won't).

Having the benefit of nearly 15 years of hindsight, I have a few questions and a request.

I am glad to see TWD's focus on the human dynamic such that we encounter a society that is not just autocratic in its rule but also in the forcing of jobs without any obvious ability to achieve a higher level of prosperity or individual life choices. This leads me to a common such occurrence when this happens - there is a civilian or military coup who oust the leaders. The Commonwealth looks pretty unstable right now, I think Dwight's idea to set the people free is the right one. But without the military strength, wouldn't the best strategy be to create an organized rebellion among the people? Look how much social / psychological damage a small group did in the riot.

After 5 years in the story, and being a huge fan favorite, can we expect to see Negan again in the future? I think his character is strong enough you could do a spinoff series such as Fear the Walking Dead on AMC or even a Negan mini-series would be great to see. I understand this would put some strain on the team so perhaps a book every other month? #BringBackNegan.

I lied. I do remember some of what I write, and it's no Negan. Or spinoffs. But mostly no Negan.

Who?

I am incredibly excited about TWD Day and have my orders in for the blind bag books. But looking even further ahead to issue 200 - you're getting close! - I have one request. While I enjoy the artistic style of the black and white books, the color covers at times add a great additional realism. What about publishing the entire issue 200 in color? That would be really impressive, bringing Charlie's great art to life in a whole new way.

You want color now, too?! I love how on its face this is a ridiculous idea... like we've done 199 issues and NOW we're going to do one in color... but I'd also love to see what it looks like. We still have another year to think about this.

Thinking...

Looking forward to the journey of the Commonwealth arc and what the future holds for TWD!

All the best,
Tom McElroy
Austin, TX

Us, too, thanks for being along for the ride, Tom!

Still thinking...

So it seems to be a consistent habit of mine that I normally write in whenever Dwight is doing something. Issue #184 is not looking promising for the future of Dwight, this dude just has to keep starting problems and acting out. I'm hoping this isn't gonna lead to an eventual brutal death, but I am starting to question how much I actually like him. Hopefully he gets laid and just chills out eventually.

He seemed to have a healthy relationship with Laura, so I don't think a lack of sex was the issue. Also, now that Dwight's gone, that mean you won't write in ever again?

Two other quick points I wanted to cover. When is Negan gonna get brought back into the fold? I know you won't give any definitive answer, but man do I want to see how he plays into the world with the Commonwealth becoming an established and permanent power. I'd love to see Negan lead a group again. ;) And the final note I wanted to make, I don't buy action figures or merchandise for many things in general. But I really do love these figures for the comic series. I actually just went out of my way to buy Beta, R.I.P. But I think it would be a huge mistake to not make either a Mercer or Commonwealth guard figure. Preferably both. Love all the hard work and the direction you're taking with this series!

All the best,
Brent from Pittsburgh

That Beta figure is pretty cool. Obligatory plug for the Skybound online shop for all the cool figures we've made—like most recently, Princess!—and who knows, maybe Mercer will be next.

No comment.

Sup guys/gals. Something that's been on my mind: why hasn't Eugene made a push for a team to go to the Library of Congress and attempt to save some of the intellectual and artistic properties there? Especially after the War w the Saviors concluded and there was a time of (seemingly) relative peace and prosperity. Perhaps there's information and/or art that could help them in infrastructure, transportation (like patented plans for a coal-powered train, perhaps?) or help future generations know what once was society and give them something to stride for reclaiming/ surpassing. It'd prob be in decent enough shape just like when the first road crew found the canned food in Wiltshire Estates Rick surmised correctly that ppl go for the high ticket items in looting first, books and papers would prob be ignored. Also it'd be great to see Charlie draw the library and that section of DC.

My guess is it's not a priority compared to other survival needs. Also, from when we last saw it, DC was still infested with walkers, making it no cakewalk to secure any of these assets.

Yes, that.

Anyways, thanks for producing this comic every month, it's rad af. Also, as a veteran I loved Abraham and thought Eugene was such a cowardly fuck for The Lie, but man, he's become one of my fav characters.

Shaun Kerr
Athens, GA

I love how fans get to watch these characters grow and are able to change their minds about them. That's always awesome to hear! Thanks!

Mercer has certainly attracted a lot of my interest in this latest comics and i was wonder how tall is he because in the comics he looks massive at least 6'4.

Thanks
Tom, Australia

That's a fair guess. The boots give him a slight lift and the mohawk is easily worth an extra inch.

Hi Robert, Sean and everyone at Skybound,

In August we were on a 20 day, 3.500 mile trip through California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona. We often had the impression of being on a movie set: we 'know' your country thanks to tv shows and films and books and comics but being there for real was an amazing experience!

On our first day in L.A. we went to Universal Studios Hollywood and had the opportunity to see The Walking Dead Attraction: lots of roamers indeed, my 16 year-old daughter Louise wasn't that impressed but I took a cool picture of her with a man at the entrance wearing a bloody blue jacket, my 13 year-old son Gabriel made us laugh because he was sooooo scared by roamers trying to reach him!!

We have seen so many beautiful places and things and met so many nice people during our trip, but that's not the point: while driving (and not driving, actually) I like to listen to some music, and one day on US 101 I was listening to The Narrows by Grant Lee Philips and I wondered: what is the place of music in a world like this? Do people sometimes sing? Do they pick a guitar and play some acoustic versions of songs they remember? What kind of music are they thinking of? (I guess in the Commonwealth some people have 'Rage Against The Machine' in mind!). Yourselves, are you listening to some music, while working or not? What kind?

That said, thanks for all these amazing stories you wrote since the beginning; thank you for having sent Negan out of the place; no thank you for having killed Andrea...

Yves, from France.

There's probably a lot of singing. I imagine it's all bastardized songs from what people can remember, so they get like four lines right, and then just hum, mumble through the rest, and make up new lyrics. And a lot of people who can't sing "Sara Smile" in the right register or something.

There not being any sound in comics, it's not something I've ever really thought about. There's definitely more singing and music in the show. In the comic, singing would just be words with music notes nearby, and I've never thought that really looked good. And anytime there are songs in books or comics, I'm COMPLETELY incapable of making them sound like songs in my head as I read, so maybe I'm biased!

As for what I listen to when I'm writing... lots of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds and the somewhat related Dirty Three. (I know I've answered this in a past letters column). I'm pretty much an old man when it comes to music, so I listen to a lot of Neil Young, David Bowie and Bob Seger. My favorite new music is Fleet Foxes. I mostly listen to music that is mellow and calming... but right now I'm listening to Metallica ...**And Justice For All.**

Hello Robert, Sean, Charlie and all TWD Crew.

Long time reader, I am admin of only "TWD Polish Comic Group" on Facebook and on behalf of Polish readers sending kindest regards, we all love you! :)

In couple of last LH you and Sean gave us hints that we might never see Negan again. For sure lots of readers asked when he's coming back. Maybe I am in the minority but... As much as I adore Negan I don't want him to return! 174 was the PERFECT way of saying goodbye to him and it has moving dramatic development. The ending, burning the bat turns us EPIC full circle to the beginning of Here's Negan. Man, it was so fucking poetic when he goes away into the sunset (or rather fullmoon). Do you know that no main character has ever left this story just walking away? Negan is unique, as always.

Second thing, I see what you're doing here with Michonne. ;) Man, I don't know if don't love her more than Andrea, it will be another awful loss. Mich was always so complicated character, a troubled soul. I'm glad she finally has found daughter & some peace. Btw, the moment when she hands over katana to Eugene was incredibly drawn (Charlie's master!) and touching as hell. Here's my question: could you reveal what is Michonne's law specialty? Btw, was Governor Milton really a governor or other kind of politician?

Thank you for continuing this epic story, can't wait to see more CMW drama!

PS Definitely #TeamMercerPrincess!

Sincerely,
Peter Macioszek,
Lodz, POLAND

Have I said Pamela was even a politician before all this? In my mind, she might have had political aspirations, but she definitely wasn't a governor before. Which makes their whole "do the jobs you had" policy very hypocritical.

Who is this Negan everyone keeps bringing up?!

See you in January! I wouldn't say a thing that could possibly spoil one moment from the next issue. We wish you the happiest of holidays and a happy New Year... I hope Dwight's brains leaking on the floor didn't ruin anything. Thank you for being fantastic fans. Onto Year 16: the year TWD gets to legally drive a car. Finally!!!

-Sean Mackiewicz

Oh my god... 16... legal driving age... I'm... I'm getting so goddamn old. Don't talk to me until January. Yeesh! I created a comic that would be old enough to drive if it were a human. This is so weird. See you next month!!

-Robert Kirkman